# Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

# WILDWNEWS



# Spring Program Schedule 2014

March - April - May

# Wildlife Viewing Tours

Saturday, March 1, 9:30—11:30am Sunday, March 2, 9:30—11:30am Sunday, April 6, 9:30—11:30am

Sit back, relax and leave the guiding to us on this twohour wildlife viewing tour aboard our Refuge bus with a naturalist. Groups up to 20. Reservations are *required*.

## Green Fire—Aldo Leopold: A Land Ethic For Our Time

Saturday, March 1, 2:00—3:00pm Sunday, March 2, 2:00 - 3:00pm Join us for a showing of this full-length documentary about the life of Aldo Leopold and how he helped to shape today's conservation ethic.

#### Thunder On The Prairie

Saturday, March 15, 10:00am—Noon
Come celebrate the Refuge's reintroduction anniversary of the bison! Learn about their history and behavior in an auditorium presentation. Then venture out with a naturalist to get a closer look during a stop at our bison corral. Cameras and binoculars recommended.

#### Waterfowl ID

Saturday, March 22, 9:00am—Noon
Learn the tips and tricks for identifying waterfowl
through an auditorium presentation then head to the
Refuge's lakes with a naturalist to put your new skills to
the test. Cameras and binoculars are recommended.

#### **Beginning Birding**

Saturday, April 5, 9:00am—Noon Learn the secrets to identifying common birds using shapes, size and color in an auditorium presentation. Then try out your new skills with naturalists stationed at key birding locations on the Refuge. Participants will receive a special Refuge guide to birds and waterfowl.

# 7th Annual Fishing Frenzy

Saturday, April 12, 8:00am — 12:00 pm
Calling all youth anglers ages 3 to 15! Grab your poles or borrow one from us— and join us for a Fishing Derby!
Visit educational booths to learn about fish identification, fly tying and more. Prizes will be awarded by category.

\* Space is limited for this FREE event at the Refuge \* Reservations can be made by calling Commerce City Parks and Recreation at 303-289-3689. Sponsored by: Commerce City Parks and Recreation, Bass Pro Shops, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### Hike-N-Bird

Saturday, April 19, 9:00 - 11:00am Grab your binoculars and wear your comfortable hiking shoes as a naturalist leads you on a guided walk through different Refuge habitats searching for and identifying our feathery friends.

# **Birding By Ear**

Saturday, April 26, 9:00—10:30am
If you've ever wanted to pick up the skill of identifying birds by song then this program is just for you! Expert birder Alison Kondler will teach you the skills to identify sounds of common birds of the Refuge.

#### **Bird Olympics**

Saturday, May 3, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Can you oogle like an owl, balance like a great blue heron, and flap your wings as fast as a hummingbird? Play bird Olympics with us and see how you score against the wild kingdom. Recommended for kids ages 6 – 10. Refuge medals awarded!

Reservations are required for these <u>FREE</u> programs. Call 303-289-0930. Please dress for weather.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Assistance dogs are welcome. Refuge staff reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs due to unforeseen circumstances and any programs with less than 10 participants.

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# Migratory Bird Day Wildlife Viewing Tour

Saturday, May 10, 9:30 am – 11:30 am Celebrate Migratory Bird Day on our two-hour wildlife viewing tour in our Refuge bus. Play bird bingo as we search for our feathered friends and other wildlife that call the Refuge home.

## **Kids' Fishing Clinic**

Saturday, May 17, 9:00am—Noon

New to fishing or need some extra instruction to kick off the fishing season? Come to our Kids' Fishing Clinic staffed by our Refuge angler volunteers. Learn the basics of fishing, how to tie knots, and the best spots to fish at the Refuge's lakes.

## **Mysteries Of Migration**

Saturday, May 17, 9:00am—Noon
Sunday, May 18, 9:00am—Noon
Think like a bird and go through the journey of migrating from your breeding home to your wintering home. After the slideshow, join us in the field to look for migratory birds on the Refuge. Open to ages 10+.

## Bike The Refuge

Saturday, May 24, 10:00 – 11:00 am
Enjoy the Refuge on two wheels as you pedal your way through the grasslands, wetlands and woodlands spotting wildlife with a naturalist. Fat, puncture-proof tires recommended and helmet required. Please be comfortable riding 6 – 8 miles.

#### **Refuge Address and Hours**

6550 Gateway Road, Commerce City, 80022 Hours: Monday - Sunday 6:00 am - 6:00 pm\*

#### **Visitor Center Hours**

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm\* The Refuge is closed on all Federal holidays.

\*Please call during inclement weather for information on adjusted hours or closures.

#### **Two Ponds NWR**

# **Humming Along**

Saturday, April 12, 7:00 – 9:00am

Hummingbirds hover, fly backwards, build their nests from spider webs and lichens, and grow no larger than your thumb! While most fly south for the winter, many migrate later or not at all. Come to Two Ponds and learn more as well as how feeders play an important role in their survival. Reservations are *not* required.

#### International Dawn Chorus Day

Sunday, May 4, 6:00 – 9:00 am

Rise early and listen to the chorus of birds starting a new day! Chorus Day is an international celebration! Bring your binoculars and join us on a special bird walk at Two Ponds - followed by breakfast at a local eatery to further discuss the experience. This is a family-friendly program - and reservations are *not* required.

#### **Refuge Address and Hours**

9210 W. 80th Ave, Arvada, CO 80005 Hours: <u>West side</u> - dawn to dusk; 7 days a week <u>East Side</u> - October to April (closed for winter) May to Sept. - Tuesday - Saturday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

## **Refuge News**

#### Wildlife Drive

Want to explore more of the Refuge at your own pace? Our g-mile Wildlife Drive auto route takes you through bison pasture, wetlands, prairie, and wooded areas. It's also a great way to access hiking trails, go birding, and photograph the Refuge. The Wildlife Drive is open every day from 6:00 am - 6:00 pm except on Federal holidays.

# Spring Fun in the Visitor Center Discovery Room

Explore the new seasonal activities, crafts and hands-on displays in the Discovery Room. Learn to identify animal tracks, make a coyote mask, create a bald eagle craft, or enjoy seasonal stories.

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Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Assistance dogs are welcome. Refuge staff reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs due to unforeseen circumstances and any programs with less than 10 participants.

Visit us online at http://www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal or at http://www.facebook.com/RMANationalWildlifeRefuge